

Summary of the Wichita Better Block



The "Better Block" project is an urban revitalization project that temporarily reengineers an area with bicycle, pedestrian and transit infrastructure mixed with art, culture and family activities. As part of the City of Wichita's Master Bicycle Plan this Better Block was built with the community and the following sponsors:





Better Block Process

- Staff kickoff
- Community meeting
- Community walk
- Volunteer coordination, flyer & volunteer spreadsheet
- BB plan
- BB starter kit
- Community build
- BB staging plan
- BB Mobilization
- BB Setup and Takedown

Community Meeting



Poster



Community Walk



Flyer

WICHITA
LET'S BUILD A
BETTER BLOCK



PRE-BUILD WORKSHOP
APR 20, 5PM - 11PM
APR 21, 9AM - 3PM
122 S HYDRAULIC ST

STAGING AND SETUP
APR 27, 3PM - 10PM
APR 28, 7AM - 2PM
KANSAS ST @
E DOUGLAS AVE

6 POPUP
SHOPS

VOLUNTEER

MATERIAL CHECK LIST

☐ PAINT BRUSH / ROLLER
☐ GLOVES
☐ CLOSED-TOE SHOES
☐ DRINK

A BIKE
FRIENDLY
STREET

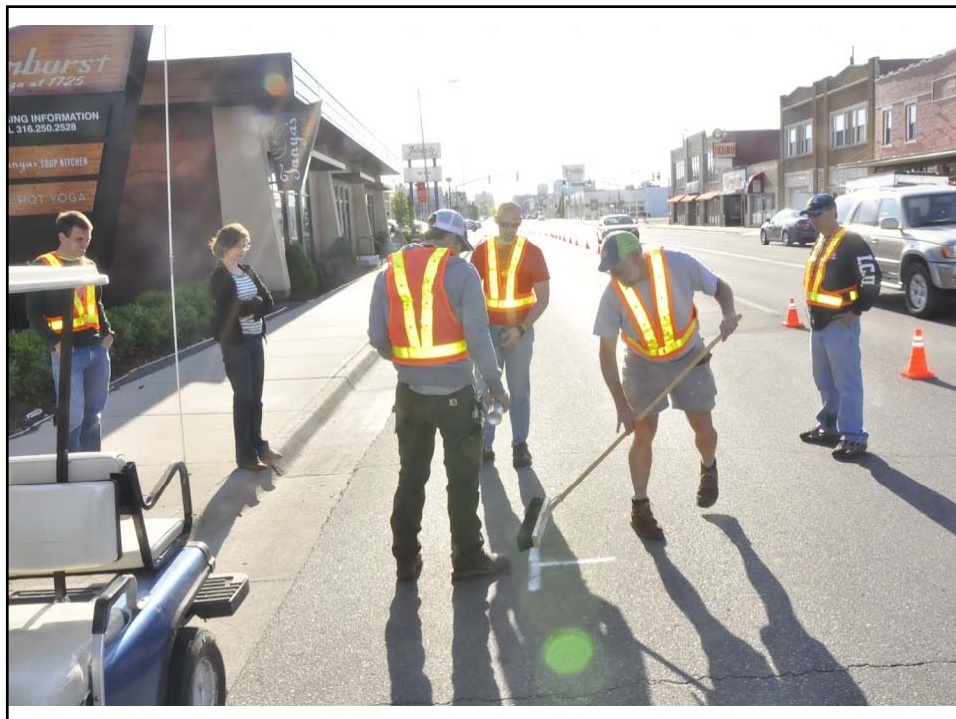
 LANDSCAPED
AVENUE

HTTP://WICHITA.TEAMBETTERBLOCK.COM

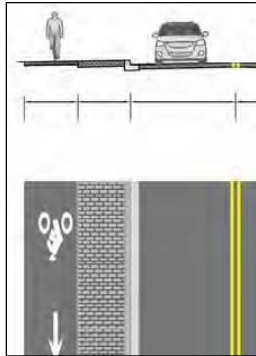
The "Better Block" project is a community revitalization effort that temporarily demonstrates how to revision an area with bicycle, pedestrian and transit infrastructure mixed with art, culture and street life. As part of the City of Wichita's Bicycle Master Plan, the community is invited to help build a Better Block at the intersection of E. Douglas and Kansas Street.

 BIKE INFRASTRUCTURE

Community Build



Cycle Track



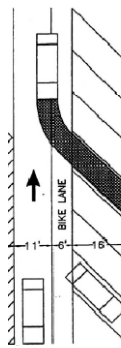
Effectiveness



Recommendation

Use to attract women, children, and elderly riders. Prefer wider sidewalk in association with treatment

Reverse Angle Parking / Bicycle Lane



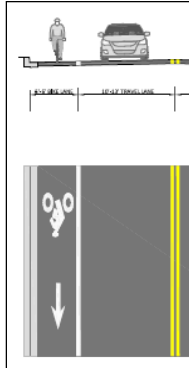
Effectiveness



Recommendation

Could be widely used as a road diet in retail and destination locations. Need enforcement to reduce front-end parking.

Bicycle Lane



Effectiveness



Recommendation

When applied with on-street parking, requires bulb-outs.

Bulb-out / Ped Plaza



Effectiveness



Recommendation

Works best in proximity to retail.
Create clear delineation between bicycles and pedestrian zones.

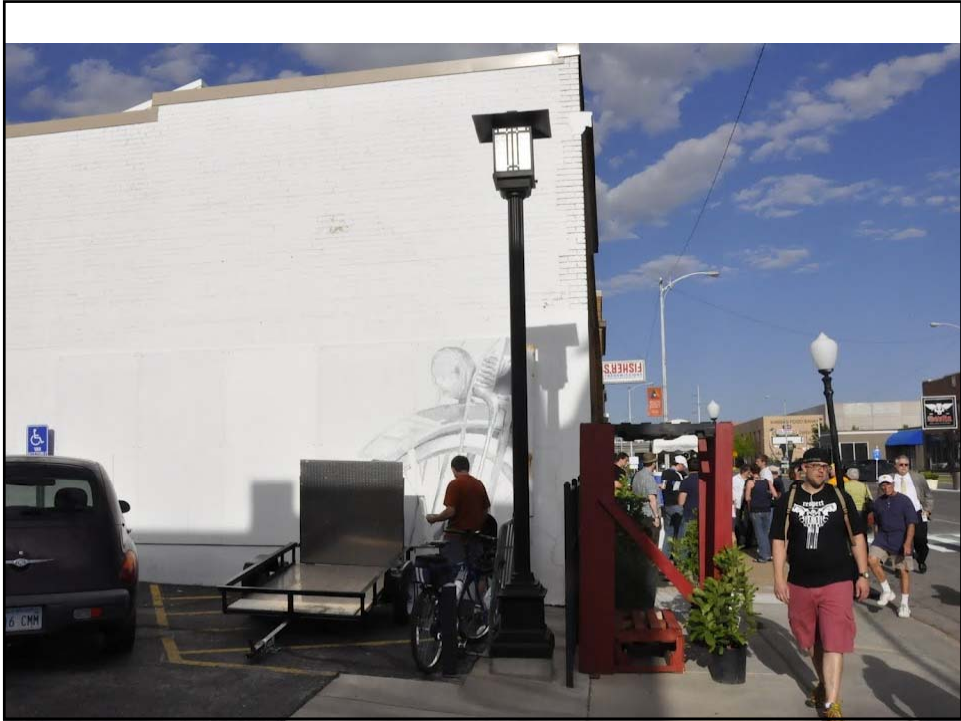
Mid-Block Crosswalk



Effectiveness	Recommendation
★★★★★	Include horizontal deflection to reduce automobile speeds.

Placemaking

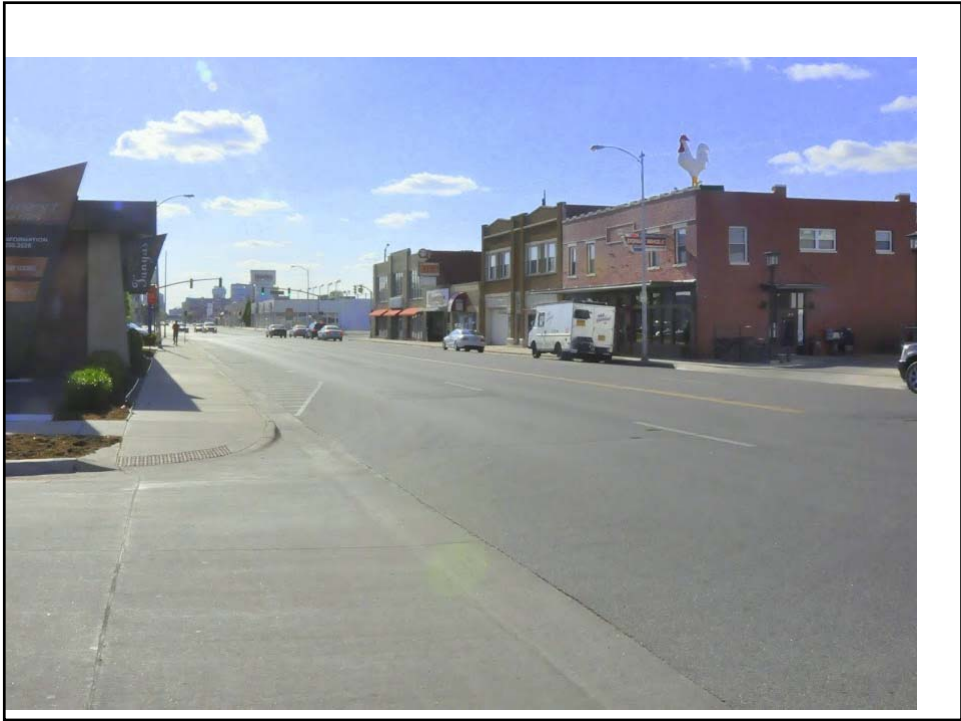
- Pop-up stores
- Branding for area
- Building murals
- Informational signage
- Music on street
- Food and beverage on street
- Sandwich board signs
- Café seating

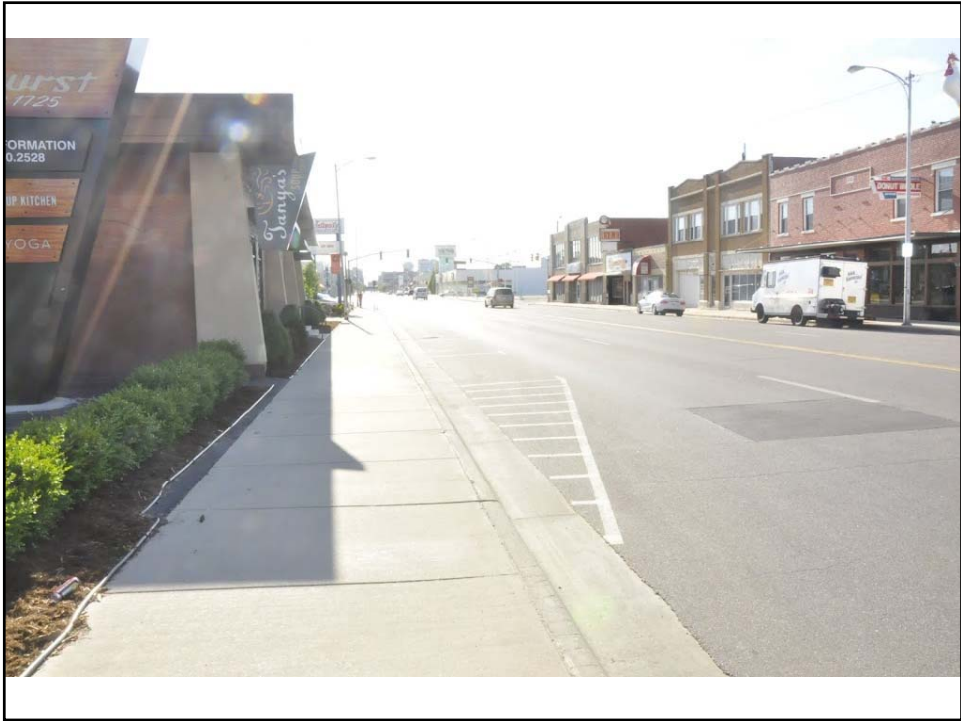


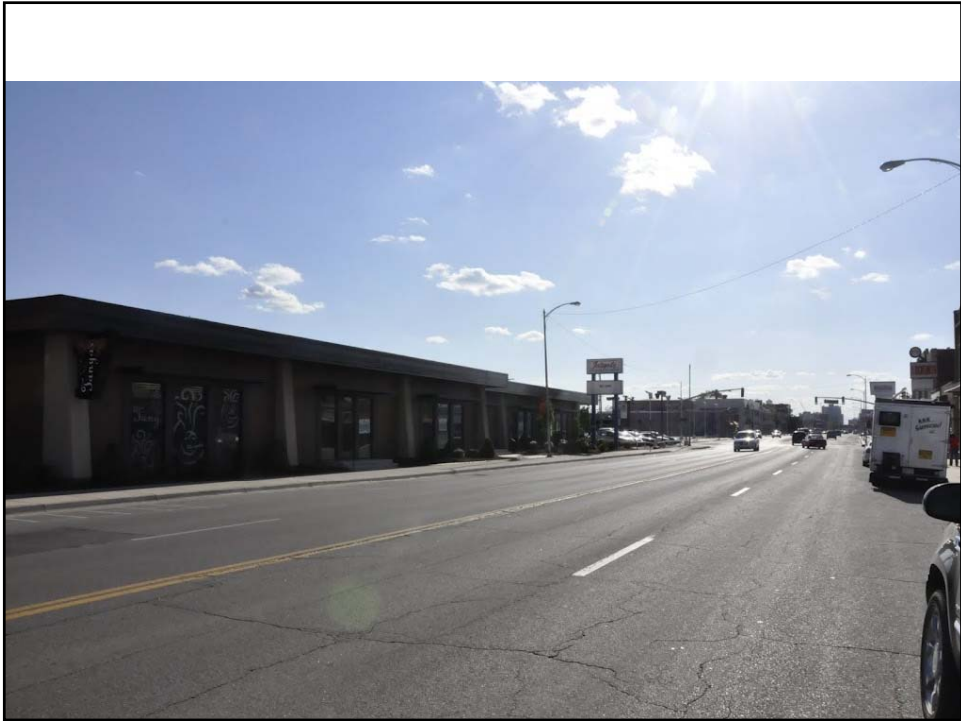
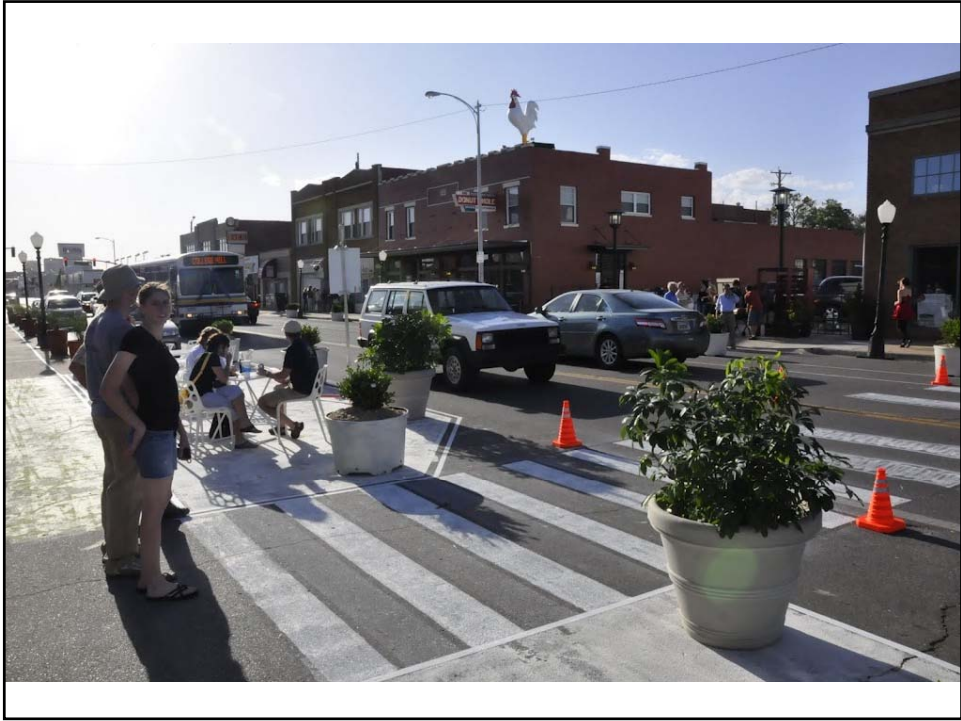
Streetscaping

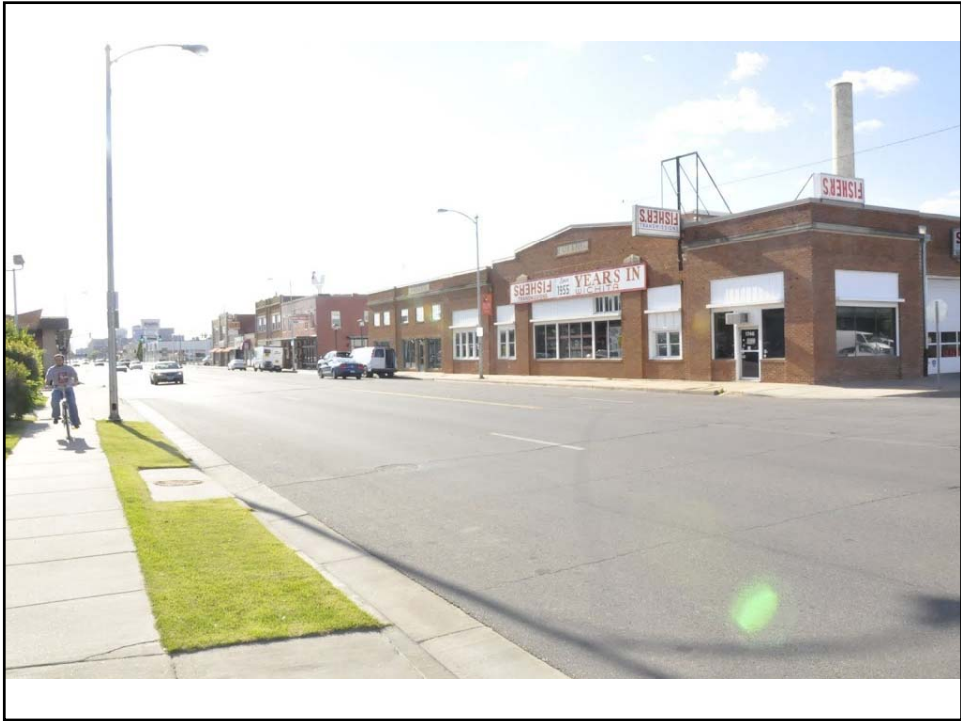
- 100 Plants and shrubs
- 30 large planters
- Eight historic street lamps
- Three park benches
- Eighty café seats
- Back in angle parking sign
- Bike lane signage
- Bicycle parking
- Crosswalk

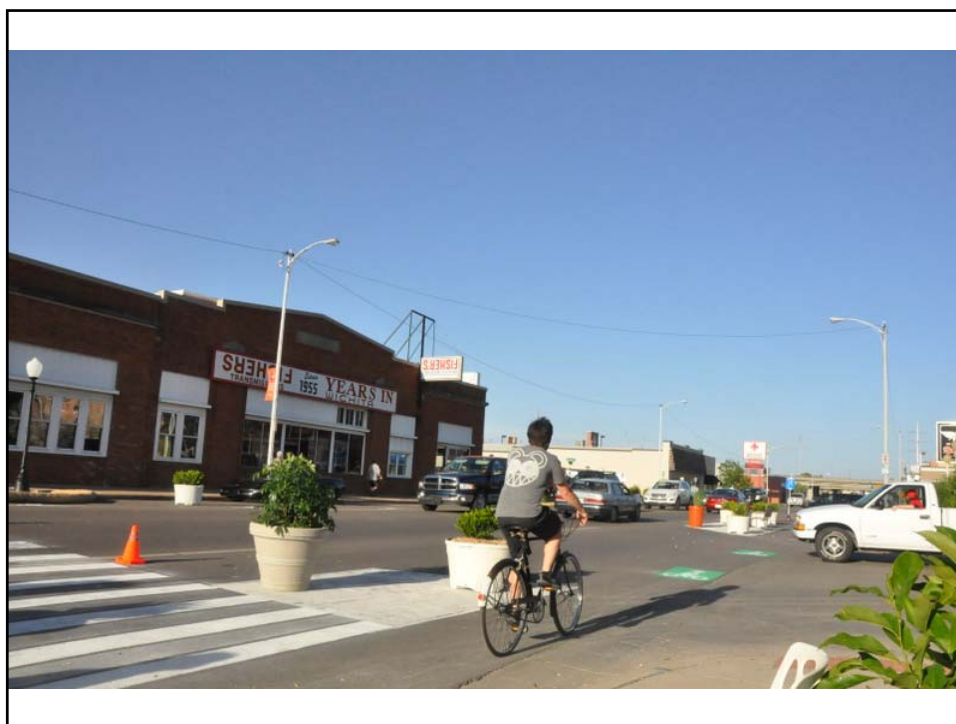












Quotes

- "I want to buy a house here" Woman visiting the area for first time.
- "I don't want the Better Block to leave" Local resident
- "Wichita needed this!" – Leon Moeder, Local property owner
- "Please make the crosswalk stay!" Angela Mallory, Donut Whole business owner
- "How can we make these changes permanent?" – Ken Stoeffel, property owner

Recommendations

#1 Design streets on a block by block scale with an eye to the adjacent land uses and neighborhoods.

#2 Test street designs using the Better Block cone, observe and refine method

#3 Use the Better Block approach to kick-off design concepts and master plans.

